

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-07 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSC-06 NSCE-00 SS-07

AID-01 EUR-08 (ISO) W

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O 201600Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1297

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS JIDDA 3589

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP (BAKER, HOWARD)

SUBJECT: VISIT OF SENATOR BAKER

REF JIDDA 3406

1. DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER MAS'UD TOLD THE AMBASSADOR MAY 20 THAT THE KING AND COURT, INCLUDING PRINCES FAHD AND ABDULLAH AND MINISTER YAMANI (AND VERY LIKELY CENTRAL PLANNING CHIEF HISHAM NAZER) WILL BE IN THE EASTERN PROVINCE FROM SATURDAY MAY 24 UNTIL WEDNESDAY MAY 28.

2. THE AMBASSADOR POINTED OUT TO MAS'UD THAT THIS WOULD MAKE SENATOR BAKER'S TRIP VERY DIFFICULT SINCE HE THOUGHT THE KING NEVER RECEIVED VISITORS WHEN HE TRAVELED OUTSIDE THE CAPITAL ON SUCH TRIPS. MAS'UD SAID THAT HE WAS SURE AN EXCEPTION COULD BE MADE IN THIS CASE AND THAT SENATOR BAKER COULD PROBABLY GET TO SEE THE PEOPLE HE WISHED. HE SAID THERE WOULD BE LITTLE SENSE IN HIS GOING TO RIYADH;
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THAT IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE FOR HIM TO TRAVEL

DIRECTLY FROM JIDDA TO DHAHRAN.

3. THE SCHEDULE FOR SENATOR BAKER IN JIDDA SATURDAY MAY 24 CAN REMAIN AS IS, INCLUDING EMBASSY BRIEFING, MEETINGS WITH DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER MAS'UD, GOVERNOR OF THE SAUDI ARABIAN MONETARY AGENCY ABD AL-AZIZ QURAYSHI AND POSSIBLY MINSTATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS PRINCE SAUD IN THE MORNING AND AMBASSADOR'S DINNER IN THE EVENING.

4. THE SCHEDULE FOR SUNDAY MAY 25, INCLUDING THE MOST IMPORTANT MEETINGS HOWEVER, IS VERY MUCH UP IN THE AIR. THIS WILL BE THE KING'S FIRST VISIT TO THE EASTERN PROVINCE SINCE ASCENDING THE THRONE AND HE WILL BE ACCEPTING THE ALLEGIANCE OF MASSES OF HIS PEOPLE. CROWN PRINCE FAHD HAS BEEN FULLY INVOLVED IN OTHER SUCH VISITS THE KING HAS MADE OVER THE PAST FEW WEEKS. NO FOREIGNERS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED DURING THESE VISITS. WE ARE THEREFORE UNCERTAIN JUST WHAT SAUDI ROYAL PROTOCOL WILL BE ABLE TO SET UP FOR SENATOR BAKER IF HE GOES TO DHAHRAN ON MAY 25. WE HOPE, NONETHELESS, IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO SET UP ALL THE APPOINTMENTS WHICH HAD BEEN PLANNED FOR RIYADH.

5. PENDING FURTHER CLARIFICATION FROM ROYAL PROTOCOL WE ARE GOING AHEAD AND MAKING RESERVATIONS ON SAUDIA FLIGHT 754 WHICH DEPARTS JIDDA AT 0700 MAY 25 AND ARRIVES IN DHAHRAN AT 1005. WE WILL ALSO MAKE RESERVATIONS FOR ENTIRE PARTY ON SAUDI FLIGHT 785 DEPARTING DHAHRAN AT 0800 MAY 26 AND ARRIVING ROME AT 1525 (THIS IS THE SAME FLIGHT THE SENATOR AND PARTY ARE ALREADY SCHEDULED TO TAKE FROM RIYADH TO ROME).

6. FOR DHAHRAN: DEPENDING UPON WISHES OF CODEL AND ROYAL PROTOCOL IT APPEARS THAT DHAHRAN MAY BE BACK ON SENATOR BAKER'S SCHEDULE. WOULD YOU PLEASE INFORMALLY CONTACT ARAMCO TO SEE IF THEY MIGHT BE WILLING TO PROVIDE SOME OF THE ASSISTANCE THEY HAD PREVIOUSLY OFFERED FOR MAY 26, PARTICULARLY ACCOMMODATIONS AT THE GUEST HOUSE AND POSSIBLY A DINNER HOSTED BY UNCLASSIFIED

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JUNGERS. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS YOU HAVE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

7. FOR CODEL BAKER: WE WILL ATTEMPT TO DETERMINE ASAP WHAT ROYAL PROTOCOL HAS IN MIND AND WHETHER IT IS FEASIBLE AND WORTHWHILE FOR CODEL TO TRAVEL TO DHAHRAN FOR APPOINTMENTS WITH KING, FAHD, AND YAMANI. IN THE MEANTIME WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR

INFORMING EMBASSY AND CONGEN DHAHRAN WHETHER CODEL
WOULD ACCEPT ARAMCO HOSPITALITY OUTLINED PARA 6
ABOVE, IF THIS SEEMS THE BEST AND MOST USEFUL
COURSE.
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